

reburial of the exposed pipelines. CPL asserts that the required pressure reduction is not feasible because the refinery and natural gas wells would have to be closed down during the jetting operations.

(2) In addition, the mechanical jet sled must be towed across the pipeline. The vessels used to tow the sled have a greater draft than the water depth in the shallower exposure areas. Uncertain wind and sea conditions could shut down the jetting operation and result in uncontrollable delays.

(3) In order to safely lower the exposed sections of line, bottom material will be disturbed well beyond the actual exposed area of the pipeline in a lateral direction to avoid subjecting the pipe to abnormal stress. Because the vessels used to tow the mechanical jet sled draft more water than is available in much of this area, there could be adverse environmental impact to the surrounding area.

#### Request for Waiver

CPL has proposed to install concrete mesh blanket units to protect the pipeline from damage in lieu of the 36 inches of cover required by [192.612(b)(3)]. Each concrete mesh blanket unit is a 20-foot by 8-foot by 9-inch section constructed from 160 individually cast 17-inch by 17-inch by 9-inch beveled concrete briquettes interconnected with 3/4-inch polypropylene UV stabilized line.

We propose to grant the waiver with the provision that CPL also install a rock shield over the pipeline before installation of the blanket. The rock shield must be of at least 3/8-inches of thickness constructed of an appropriate material. With the addition of the rock shield we believe there is no reason to anticipate a lesser level of safety than would be achieved by a 36-inch pipeline burial. With these conditions, it appears that the requested waiver of compliance with 192.612(c)(3) would not be inconsistent with pipeline safety. We propose to grant the waiver. Interested parties are invited to comment on the proposed waiver by submitting, in duplicate, data, views, or arguments relevant to the proposed grant of waiver. We specifically request comments on the adequacy of the proposed concrete mat to reduce the hazard to navigation posed by the exposed pipeline and on any impact the mat may have on fishing vessel operations. Comments should identify the Docket and Notice numbers, and be submitted to the Dockets Facility, U.S. Department of Transportation, 400 Seventh Street, SW, Plaza 401, Washington, DC 20590-0001.

All comments received on or before, June 28, 1999 will be considered before final action is taken. Late filed comments will be considered so far as practicable. No public hearing is contemplated, but one may be held at a time and place to be set in a Notice in the **Federal Register** if requested by an interested person desiring to comment at a public hearing and raising a genuine issue.

(Authority: 49 U.S.C. 60118(c); 49 CFR 1.53)

Issued in Washington, DC, May 21, 1999.

**Richard B. Felder,**

*Associate Administrator for Pipeline Safety.*

[FR Doc. 99-13448 Filed 5-26-99; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Surface Transportation Board

[STB Docket No. AB-55 (Sub-No. 573X)]

#### CSX Transportation, Inc.— Abandonment Exemption—in Midland County, MI

On May 7, 1999, CSX Transportation, Inc. (CSXT), filed with the Surface Transportation Board (Board) a petition under 49 U.S.C. 10502 for exemption from the provisions of 49 U.S.C. 10903 to abandon an approximately 1.85-mile portion of its Detroit Service Lane, Dean Subdivision, between milepost CB-17.37 and milepost CB-19.22, in Midland, Midland County, MI. The line traverses U.S. Postal Service Zip Code 48642. There are no stations on the line.

The line does not contain federally granted rights-of-way. Any documentation in CSXT's possession will be made available promptly to those requesting it.

The interest of railroad employees will be protected by the conditions set forth in *Oregon Short Line R. Co.—Abandonment—Goshen*, 360 I.C.C. 91 (1979).

By issuance of this notice, the Board is instituting an exemption proceeding pursuant to 49 U.S.C. 10502(b). A final decision will be issued by August 25, 1999.

Any offer of financial assistance (OFA) under 49 CFR 1152.27(b)(2) will be due no later than 10 days after service of a decision granting the petition for exemption. Each offer must be accompanied by a \$1,000 filing fee. See 49 CFR 1002.2(f)(25).

All interested persons should be aware that, following abandonment of rail service and salvage of the line, the line may be suitable for other public use, including interim trail use. Any request for a public use condition under

49 CFR 1152.28 or for trail use/rail banking under 49 CFR 1152.29 will be due no later than June 16, 1999. Each trail use request must be accompanied by a \$150 filing fee. See 49 CFR 1002.2(f)(27).

All filings in response to this notice must refer to STB Docket No. AB-55 (Sub-No. 573X) and must be sent to: (1) Surface Transportation Board, Office of the Secretary, Case Control Unit, 1925 K Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20423-0001, and (2) Charles M. Rosenberger, 500 Water Street-J150, Jacksonville, FL 32202. Replies to the CSXT petition are due on or before June 16, 1999.

Persons seeking further information concerning abandonment procedures may contact the Board's Office of Public Services at (202) 565-1592 or refer to the full abandonment or discontinuance regulations at 49 CFR part 1152. Questions concerning environmental issues may be directed to the Board's Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA) at (202) 565-1545. [TDD for the hearing impaired is available at (202) 565-1695.]

An environmental assessment (EA) (or environmental impact statement (EIS), if necessary) prepared by SEA will be served upon all parties of record and upon any agencies or other persons who commented during its preparation. Other interested persons may contact SEA to obtain a copy of the EA (or EIS). EAs in these abandonment proceedings normally will be made available within 60 days of the filing of the petition. The deadline for submission of comments on the EA will generally be within 30 days of its service.

Board decisions and notices are available on our website at "WWW.STB.DOT.GOV."

Decided: May 21, 1999.

By the Board, David M. Konschnik,  
Director, Office of Proceedings.

**Vernon A. Williams,**

*Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 99-13546 Filed 5-26-99; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

### Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

May 20, 1999.

The Department of Treasury has submitted the following public information collection requirement(s) to OMB for review and clearance under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13. Copies of the submission(s) may be obtained by calling the Treasury Bureau Clearance